COMMITTEE STATEMENT

LB 605

HEARING DATE: March 4, 1999 COMMITTEE ON: Revenue

TITLE: (Stuhr) Change the motor vehicle fuel tax

ROLL CALL VOTE - FINAL COMMITTEE ACTION

Advanced to General File

X Advanced to General File with Amendments

Indefinitely Postponed

Vote Results:

7 Yes Senators Coordsen, Hartnett, C. Peterson, Raikes,

Redfield, Schellpeper and Wickersham

1 No Senator Landis

0 Present, not voting

0 Absent

PROPONENTS REPRESENTING

Senator Elaine Stuhr Introducer

Steve Sorum Nebraska Ethanol Board

Andy Jensen Nebraska Corn Growers Association
Danny Allison High Plains Corporation

John Campbell Ag Processing, Inc.

Rod Schroeder Nebraska Energy Cooperative, Inc.
Scott Houck Nebraska Soybean Association

Jerry ElfringYork County Development CorporationGreg PetersNebraska Soybean Growers Association

Burdette Piening Self

Thomas Kell Nebraska Energy LLC

OPPONENTS REPRESENTING

Bud Cuca Nebraska Trucking

Terry King Nebraska Chapter Associated General Contractors

NEUTRAL REPRESENTING

Vincent Brown American Petroleum Institute

Fred Stone NE Petroleum Marketers & Convenience Store Assn.

Rod Johnson Nebraska Grain & Feed Association

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SUMMARY OF PURPOSE AND/OR CHANGES:

LB 605 would amend sections 66-489 (motor fuel tax imposed at the wholesale level) and 66-4,105 (excise tax for use of motor fuel in the state) to provide for a two cent lower gas tax for motor fuel containing a minimum of 10 percent agricultural ethyl alcohol. The sections amended impose the statutory 10 1/2 cent gas tax which is deposited in the Highway Trust Fund for distribution to cities, counties and the state. The bill carries the emergency clause.

EXPLANATION OF AMENDMENTS, IF ANY:

The Committee amendments amend section 66-1345 to provide that any shortfall to the Highway Trust Fund is to be reimbursed from the Ethanol Production Incentive Cash Fund and limit the two-cent decrease to the period between January 1, 2000 and the time at which the EPIC Fund is unable to reimburse the Highway Trust Fund. The emergency clause would be struck by the Committee amendments.

Senator William R. Wickersham, Chairman Committee on Revenue